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Message Text

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43
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 L-03 IGA-01 FS-01 ABF-01

TRSE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 OMB-01 A-01 EB-07 SS-15

NSC-05 OPR-02 COME-00 EAE-00 /071 W
---------- 081936
P R 221110Z OCT 75
FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5462
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY PARIS
DIA WASH DC/AH
CINCPAC

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, AFIN, LA, US
SUBJECT: STATUS OF EMBASSY'S BANK ACCOUNT AT LAO NATIONAL BANK

REF: STATE 246537 (DTG 162339Z OCT 75)

1. WE RECEIVED FOLLOWING NOTE (NO. 441/AE.AP) DATED OCTOBER 17 TODAY, OCTOBER 22:

BEGIN TEXT: THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE PGNU OF LAOS PRESENTS ITS COMPLIMENTS TO THE EMBASSY OF THE USA AND HAS THE HONOR TO INFORM IT THAT ON THE ORDER OF THE PEOPLE'S REVOLUTIONARY ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE OF VIENTIANE, THE NATIONAL BANK OF LAOS HAS TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED, AS OF OCTOBER 8, 1975, YOUR ACCOUNT NO. 4004 "US DISTURBING OFFICER" (SIC). THEREFORE, THE EMBASSY SHOULD ABSTAIN FROM THAT DATE FROM USING THE CHECKBOOK IN ITS POSSESSION. THE REASONS FOR THIS ARE THE NECESSITY OF CARRYING OUT AN INVENTORY AND TO PROCEED TO NEW STUDIES.
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WHILE AWAITING THEIR RESULTS, IT IS PREFERABLE THAT THE EMBASSY MAKE APPLICATION SO AS TO OPEN A NEW ACCOUNT AT THE NATIONAL BANK OF LAOS FOR ALL EXPENDITURES RELATIVE TO THE GOOD FUNCTIONING OF THE EMBASSY. (COMPLIMENTARY CLOSE.) END TEXT.

2. WE PROPOSE TO REPLY ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES: THE EMBASSY OF THE USA PRESENTS ITS COMPLIMENTS TO THE MFA OF THE PGNU OF LAOS AND HAS THE HONOR TO ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF THE MINISTRY'S NOTE NO. 441/AE.AP OF OCTOBER 17, 1975, REGARDING THE EMBASSY'S ACCOUNT AT THE NATIONAL BANK OF LAOS. THE EMBASSY ASSUMES THAT THE STUDIES MENTIONED IN THE MINISTRY'S NOTE WILL TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE JUNE 26, 1975 LETTER FROM MR. GORDON RAMSEY, FORMER ACTING DIRECTOR OF THE UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (USAID) TO MR. KHAMSING SYAKONE, CHAIRMAN OF THE PGNU'S COMMITTEE TO RECEIVE USAID PROPERTIES. (COMPLIMENTARY CLOSE.)

3. COMMENT: THE MINISTRY'S NOTE DOES NOT, OF COURSE, ASSERT A PGNU CLAIM TO ANY OF THE FUNDS IN OUR NBL ACCOUNT. HOWEVER, WE HOPE TO SMOKE THEM OUT ON THAT QUESTON. OUR REFERENCE TO THE JUNE 26 LETTER WILL AT LEAST MAKE THE CURRENT BANK MANAGEMENT AWARE OF ITS EXISTENCE AND MAY ALLOW THEM TO MAKE THE NUANCE BETWEEN THOSE FUNDS DESTINED FOR USAID PROJECTS AND THOSE FOR THE USE OF THE EMBASSY.

4. IN THE MEANWHILE, WE ARE EXPLORING WAYS AND MEANS OF GAINING ACCESS TO OUR BANQUE DE L'INDOCHINE ACCOUNT. THERE ARE SOME INDICATIONS THAT THIS CAN BE DONE BY OBTAINING AUTHORIZATION FROM THE NBL AUTHORITIES. IF THIS PROVES TO BE THE CASE, WE MAY DEPOSIT SOME OF THE FUNDS OBTAINED IN A NEW ACCOUNT AT THE NBL, AS, WITH RECEIPT OF THE ABOVE NOTE, OPENING SUCH AN ACCOUNT NO LONGER IMPLIES ANYTHING REGARDING OUR ATTITUDE TOWARDS THE PGNU'S ACTION REGARDING ACCOUNT NO. 4004. WE WOULD DEPOSIT NO NEW FUNDS FROM TREASURY CHECKS TO THIS ACCOUNT WITHOUT FURTHER CONSULTATION.

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5. ACTIONS REQUESTED: A) APPROVAL OF OUR PROPOSED NOTE OF REPLY; B) APPROVAL OF OUR OPENING A NEW ACCOUNT AT NBL IF WE BELEIVE IT IS EXPEDIENT TO DO SO AFTER OBTAINING ACCESS TO OUR FUNDS IN THE BIC.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NATIONALIZATION, BANK ACCOUNTS, EMBASSIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 OCT 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975VIENTI06003
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750366-0816
From: VIENTIANE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751031/aaaabbgs.tel
Line Count: 112
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 246537
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Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
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